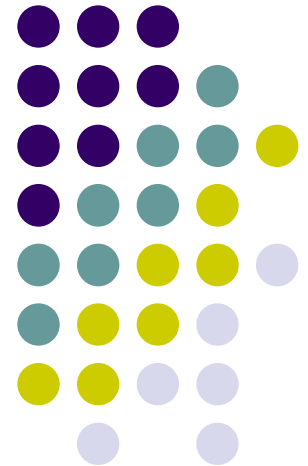# **Network Cabling**

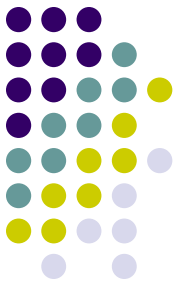## Making connections with Cat5

Way cool!

Overview

- What cable types are available?
- How do cables work?
- How are cables used in networking?
- How are connections made?

Learning Objectives

- List common cable types used in networking
- Describe how UTP cables are made
- Explain how UTP cables are used in Ethernet networks
- Demonstrate the ability to make a working patch cable
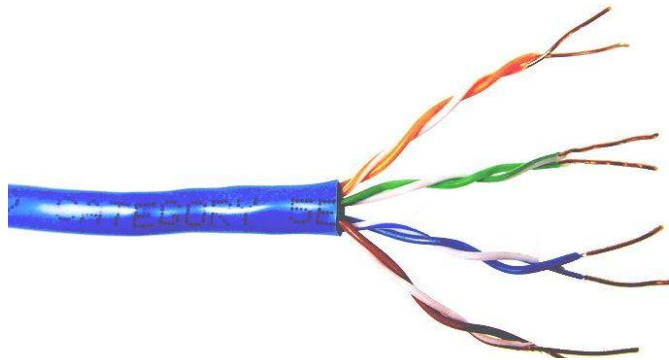- Name the two wiring standards used for wired Ethernet networks and their uses

Common network cable types

- Coaxial cable

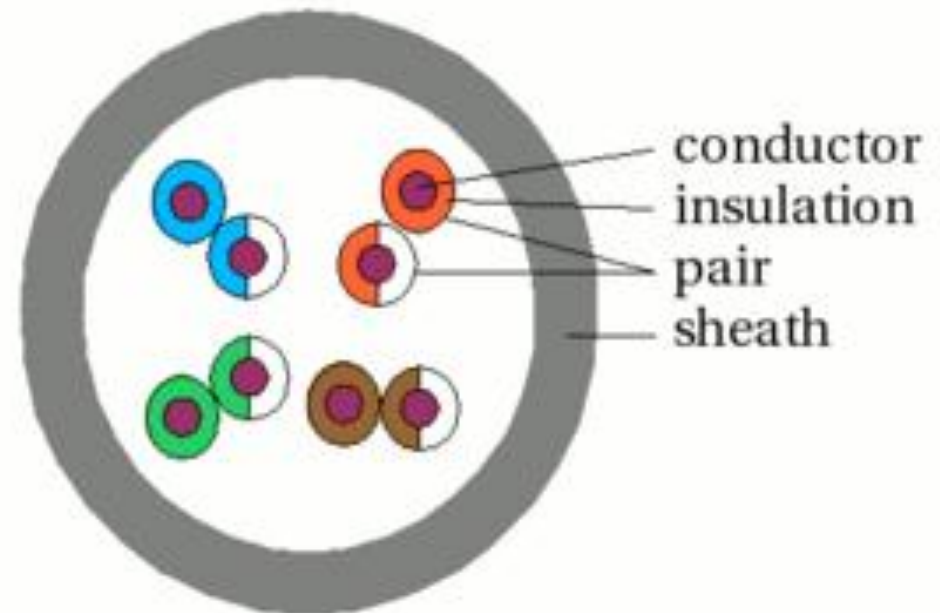- Unshielded twisted pair

- Fiber optic

UTP characteristics

- Unshielded
- Twisted (why?) pairs of insulated conductors
- Covered by insulating sheath

UTP

conductor
insulation
pair
sheath

UTP categories

Category 1	Voice only (Telephone)
Category 2	Data to 4 Mbps (Localtalk)
Category 3	Data to 10Mbps (Ethernet)
Category 4	Data to 20Mbps (Token ring)
Category 5	Data to 100Mbps (Fast Ethernet)
Category 5e	Data to 1000Mbps (Gigabit Ethernet)
Category 6	Data to 2500Mbps (Gigabit Ethernet)

Cat5e cable

- 1000Mbps data capacity
- For runs of up to 90 meters
- Solid core cable ideal for structural installations (PVC or Plenum)
- Stranded cable ideal for patch cables
- Terminated with RJ-45 connectors

RJ45 connector
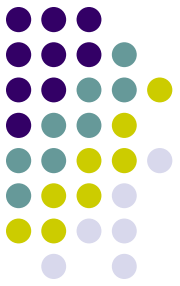
Making connections - Tools

- Cat5e cable
- RJ45 connectors
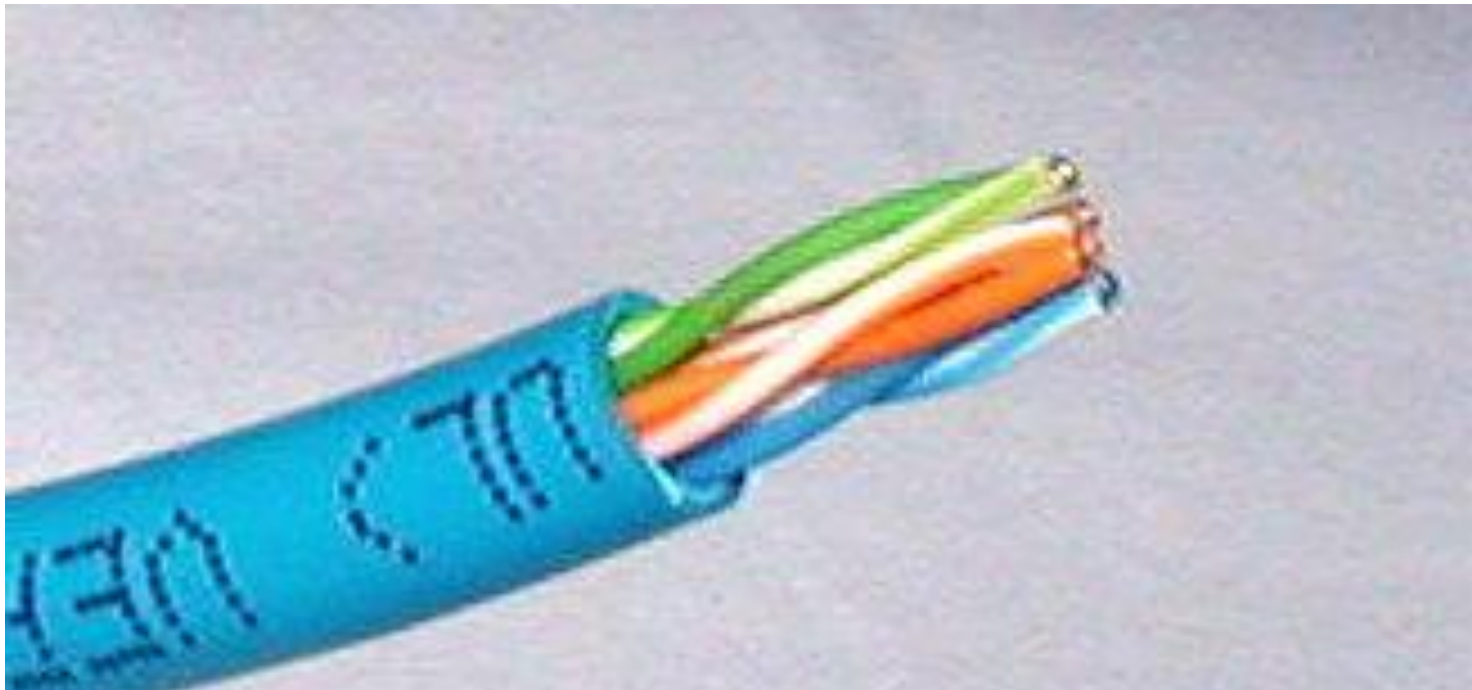- Cable stripper
- Scissors
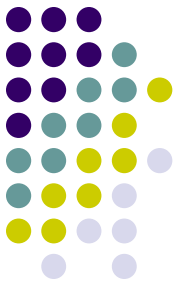- Crimping tool

Making connections - Steps

1. Strip cable end
2. Untwist wire ends
3. Arrange wires
4. Trim wires to size
5. Attach connector
6. Check
7. Crimp
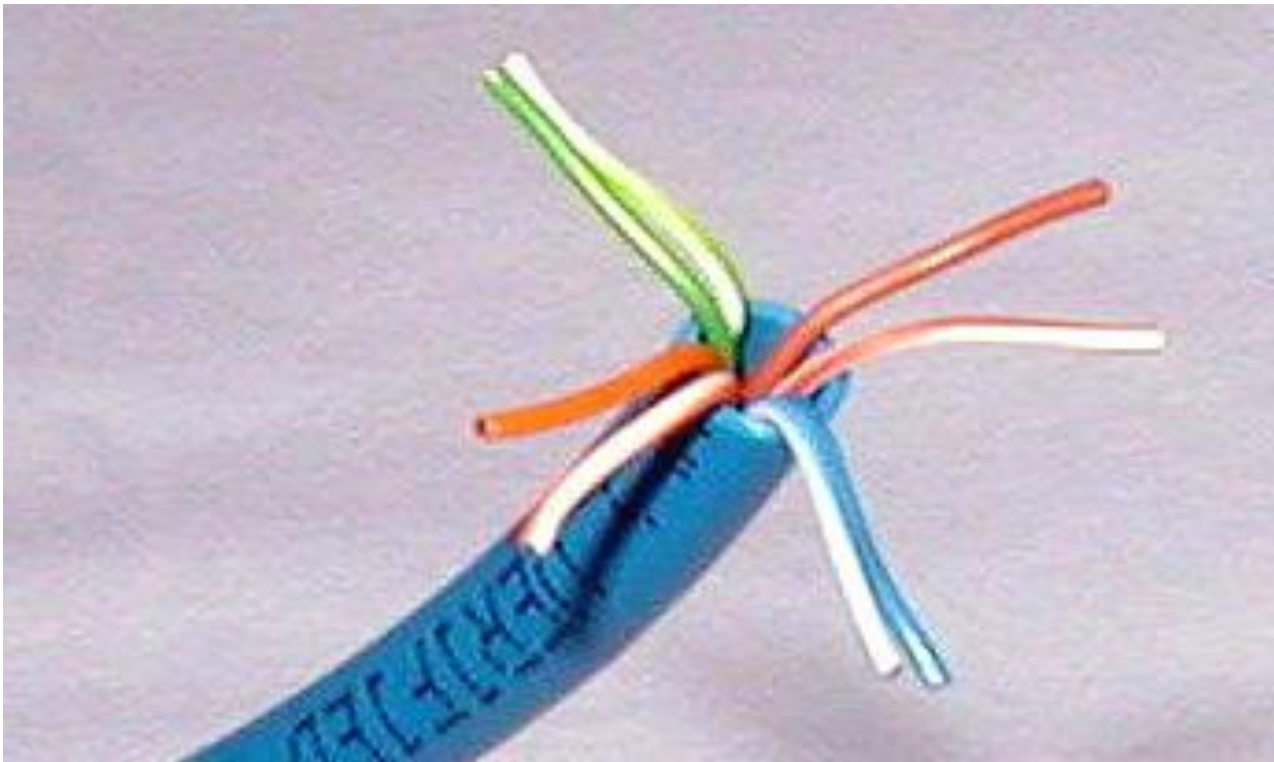8. Test

Step 1 – Strip cable end

- Strip 1 – 1½" of insulating sheath
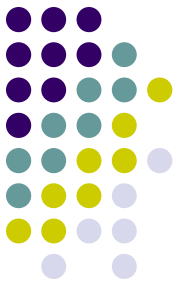- Avoid cutting into conductor insulation

Step 2 – Untwist wire ends

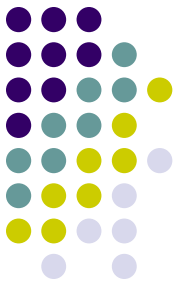- Sort wires by insulation colors
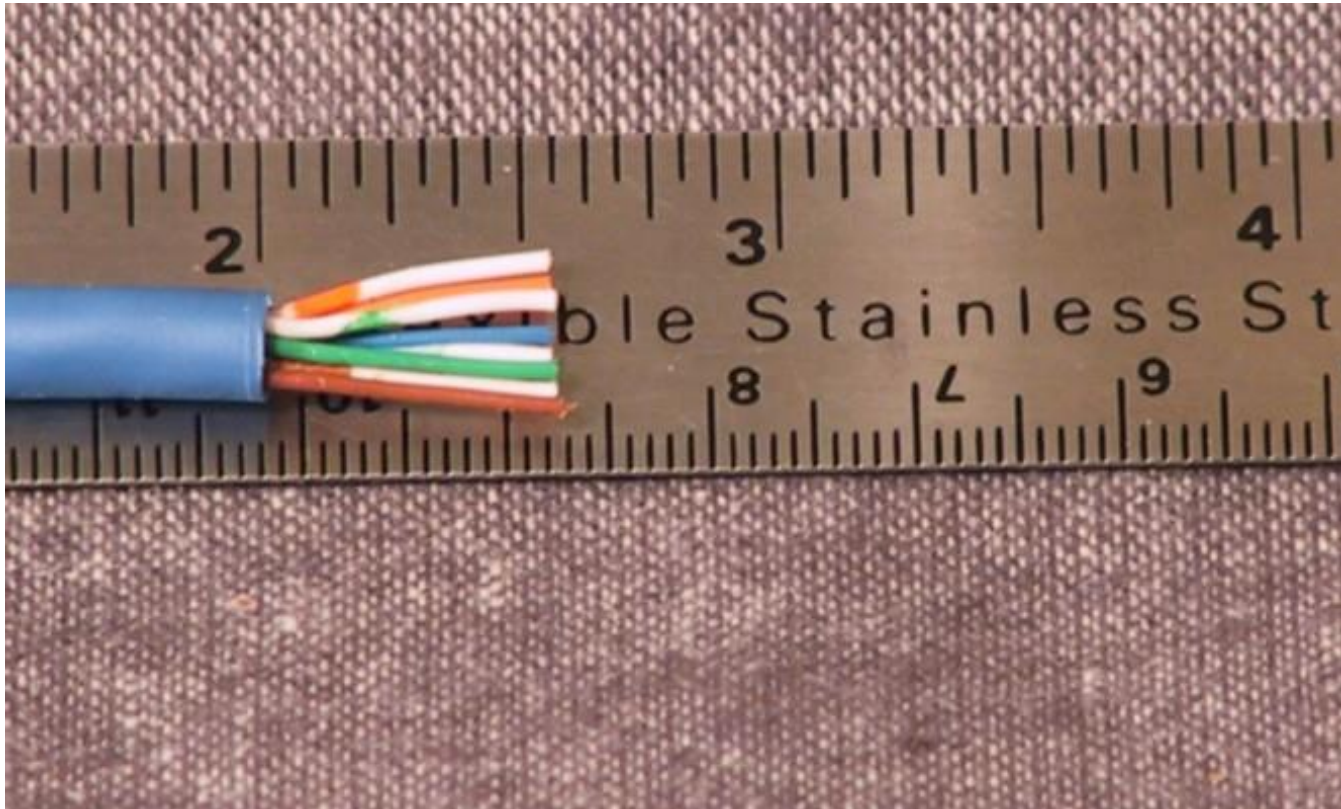
Step 3 – Arrange wires

- TIA/EIA 568A: WGr-Gr-WOr-BL-WBL-Or-WBr-Br
- TIA/EIA 568B: WOr-Or-WGr-BL-WBL-Gr-WBr-Br

Step 4 – Trim wires to size

- Trim all wires evenly
- Leave about ½" of wires exposed

Step 5 – Attach connector

- Maintain wire order,
  left-to-right, with RJ45
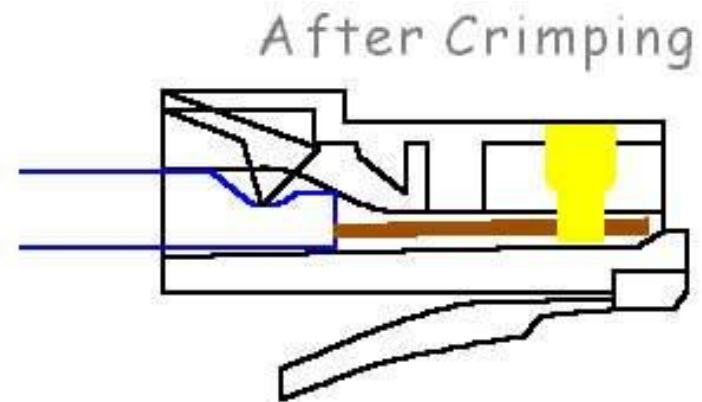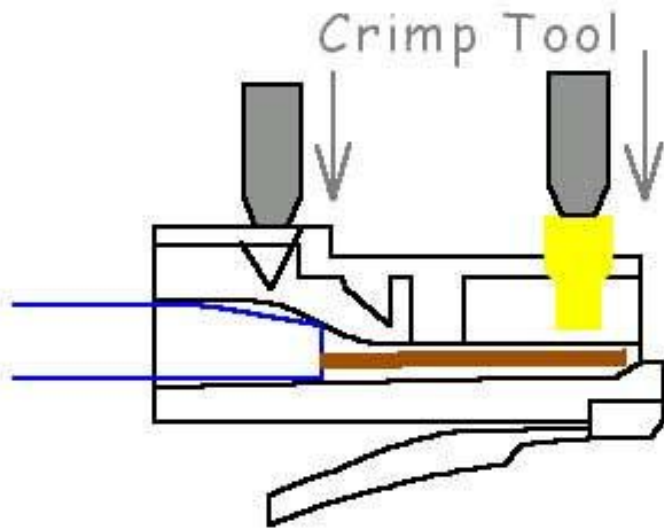 tab facing downward

Step 6 - Check

- Do all wires extend to end?
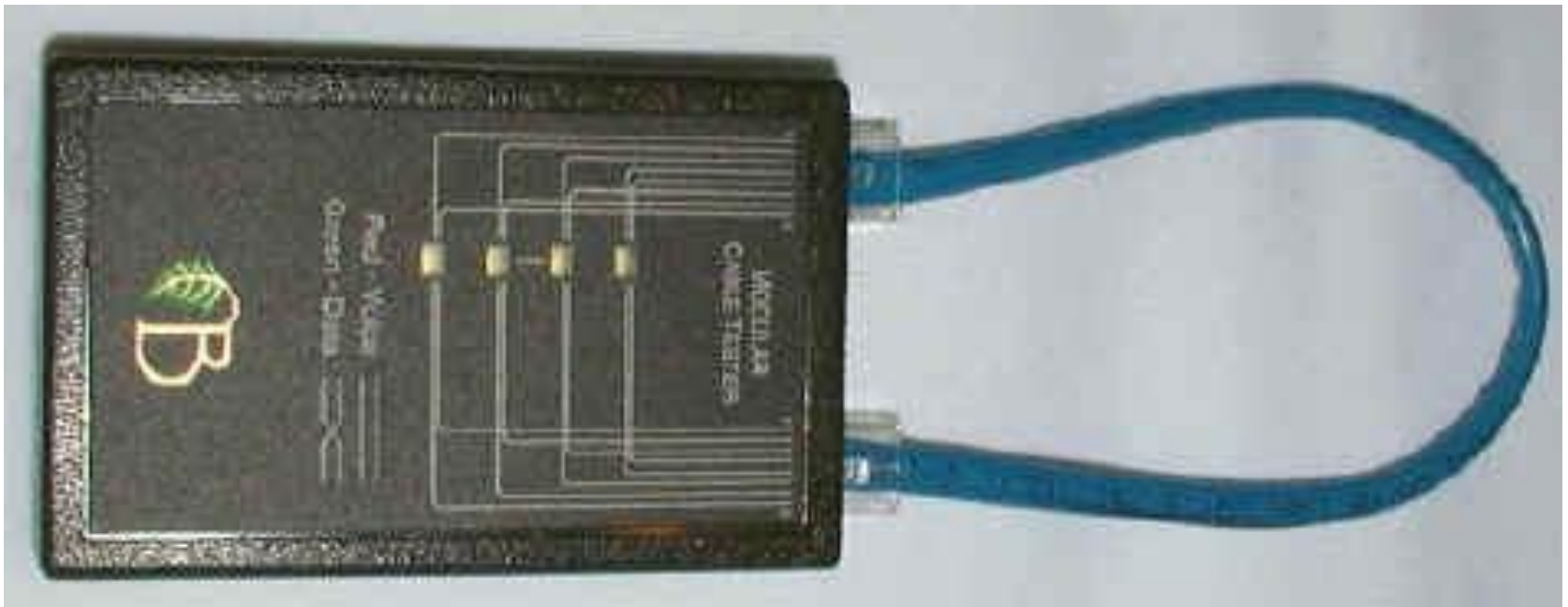- Is sheath well inside connector?

Step 7 - Crimp

- Squeeze firmly to crimp connecter onto cable end (8P)

Step 8 – Test

- Does the cable work?

Let's go to work!